

plate 66 is bolted to the forward-most facing side of v-shaped member 60. An arm 68 is then attached to plate 66 by aligning tubes 70A-D, which are welded as shown in FIG. 5, in spaced-apart locations on plate 66 and arm 68, in a manner so that when aligned, pivot pin 72 can be placed through all of tubes 70. The pin 72 can then be removably secured in position by a cotter key or other means well within the skill of those skilled in the art. Therefore, tubes 70 and pin 72 essentially act like a piano hinge which would allow arm 68 to pivot upwardly. An upwardly extending ear 74 is welded on top of v-shaped member 60. A similar ear 76 is welded on top of arm 68. A hydraulic cylinder 80 is removably connected by pins 78 and 79 to ears 74 and 76. Actuation of cylinder 80 would therefore lift or pivot arm 68 upwardly about hinge 70/72 when desired (see FIG. 4).

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Figure 6 does show some specific structure that will now be described. One way arm 108 can pivot relative to the structure of arm 102 is by welding a tubular member 107 to the top of arm section 106 of arm 102. Tube 107 would have opposite open ends and would be placed transverse or perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of arm 108. Plates 109 and 111 would be welded or otherwise secured to opposite sides of arm 108 (preferably at or near the center of its length). Apertures would be formed in alignment on plates 109 and 111 underneath arm 108. Plates 109 and 111 would be spaced so that they are slightly wider than the length of tube 107 and when the apertures and plates 109 and 111 are aligned with the ends of tube 107 a pivot pin 113 could be inserted there through and secured in position by any number of means, including cotter keys 115 and 117. The bottom of arm 108 would be spaced apart from the top of tube 107 so that all the weight of arm 108 and any attachments is borne by pivot pin 113 and the

112 associated structure with that pivot axis. Other methods of pivotal attachment of arm 108 to the remainder of the implement are possible.

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113 Figure 7 illustrates diagrammatically how beam 108 pivots about pivot pin 110. Figures 8 and 9 show the practical advantage of this arrangement. When a front rake wheel 26 experiences a rise in the terrain, or a rock or other object (Figure 8), it will follow it and remain in contact. At the same time, this will cause beam 108 to pivot and allows the following rake wheel 26 to stay in contact with the ground. When the forward wheel 26 passes over the bump or object (Fig. 9), and the rear wheel 26 reaches it, beam 108 will pivot the other way and continue to allow both wheels 26 to maintain contact with the ground

- Page 26, Abstract of Disclosure:

114 An apparatus and method for combined raking and baling of either baleable crops or after-harvest stalks, stubble, and trash. A rake is installed in front of the operating throat of a baler. The rake channels materials into the baler throat in the same pass over the field to effectively improve on the baling efficiency extend the area of ground coverage for the implement, or both.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel, without prejudice, claim 2.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.

115 A rake attachment for a PTO-driven large bale baler comprising:

a frame having a front end and a rear end along a longitudinal axis, and a passageway between said front and rear ends for a PTO shaft;

the front end including a connection adapted for connection of the frame to a motive means;